(c) whether it can be utilized by mixing in petrol and diesel;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) by when the ethanol mixed petrol is considered to be made available to the consumers in the country?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) Government introduced a mandatory 5% ethanol-blended petrol programme w.e.f. 1.1.2003. But despite the mandatory requirement, the programme could be implemented only fitfully and in a staggered manner because ethanol was not made available in a consistent manner and at reasonable prices. Therefore, a fresh Gazette Notification, No. GSR 705 (E) was issued on 27.10.2004 in keeping with ground realities and commercial viability. In compliance oil companies have finalized the purchase of ethanol in Uttar Pradesh and tenders have been invited from other States.

On 4th August, 2005 a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was concluded between Indian Oil Corporation, the industry coordinator for oil marketing companies, and the Indian Sugar Mills Association (ISMA), to ensure sustained availability of ethanol at commercially sustainable prices.

(b) Since molasses, a derivative of sugar used for the manufacture of ethanol, is a decontrolled item and ethanol manufacturing is a de-licensed activity, no data is being maintained regarding the production of ethanol.

(c) and (d) While ethanol can be blended in petrol, the technology for blending ethanol in diesel is not yet fully established for commercial use.

(e) As already stated in (a) above.

Profit earned by crude oil processing industries

†2292. SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:
SHRI RAM JETHMALANI:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the profit earned by crude oil processing industries of public as well as private sector is increasing continuously;

(b) if so, the profit earned on oil refinement by these companies during the years 2002-03, 2003-04 and 2004-05 separately; and

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(c) the quantity of oil refined by these companies during **the** said period?

The MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) The gross refinery margin of PSU oil refineries has increased from $ 3.94/bbl during 2002/03 to $ 5.77/bbl during 2004-05.

(b) The information on public sector oil refining companies is given in the Statement-I (See below)

(c) The information on public sector oil refining companies is given in the Statement-ll.

Statement-I

Profit earned/loss incurred by public sector Oil refining companies

(Rs. in crore)

SI.No.	Name of the Company	Profit/Los		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-
1.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited#		4,470*	4,841*
2.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited#		1,572*	1,750*
3.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited#		1,035*	959*
4.	Kochi Refineries Limited#		869*	1,093*
5.	Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited#		469	707*
6.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited#		572*	934*
7.	Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals Limited#	(-	459*	880*
8.	Numaligarh Refinery Limited#		215*	409*

#from refining operations only
*before tax
after tax

Statement-ll

Quantity of crude oil refined

(In million metric tonnes)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Crude oil refined		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-
1.	Indian Oil Corporation Limited	35.29	37.66	36.63
2.	Hindustan Petroleum Corporation Limited	12.93 8.71	13.70 8.76	13.94 9.14
3.	Bharat Petroleum Corporation Limited	7.58-	7.85	7.92

(In million metric tonnes)

S.No.	Name of the Company	Crude oil		
		2002-03	2003-04	2004-
5.	Bongaigaon Refinery & Petrochemicals	1.46	2.13	2.31
6.	Chennai Petroleum Corporation Limited	6.82	7.04	8.92
7.	Mangalore Refinery & Petrochemicals	7.25	10.04	11.84
8.	Numaligam Refinery Limited	1.88	2.20	2.04

Profit earned by ONGC

†2293. DR. MURLI MANOHAR JOSHI:
SHRI RAJ MOHINDER SINGH MAJITHA:

Will the Minister of PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that ONGC, **a** public sector company has earned a profit of Rs. 3318 crores during the first quarter from April to June of the year, 2005-06, which is more than Rs. 2308.20 crores as compared to the corresponding period of previous year;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether it is also a fact that the company has earned this profit without enhancing their production of crude oil and gas; and

(d) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF PETROLEUM AND NATURAL GAS (SHRI MANI SHANKAR AIYAR): (a) ONGC has earned net pofit of Rs. 3318.88 crores during the 1st quarter of 2005-06 as against Rs. 2308.20 crores earned during the corresponding period of previous year.

(b) Details are given in the Statement (See below).

(c) to (d) Yes Sir. These profits are largely on account of higher price realizations.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.